

Pieces of Grace

*God raised us up... in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come
he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ
Ephesians 2:6-7*

Grace is a word of which Lutherans often speak. It's a free, undeserved gift from God. It's God's love given to all people. I was introduced to the phrase "pieces of grace" several years ago and quite like it. Whether found in things falling into place at work, a particular moment during your day that touched you, finally finding the right medication, having special time with children or grandchildren, meeting new people at our neighborhood dinner, or something else, God showers pieces of grace on us daily, encouraging us to look for them and know that you are loved. Know that God is with you.

After Ash Wednesday worship several years ago, a colleague shared a text he received from his daughter saying that after she "washed last night's cross" off her 3 year old's forehead, his granddaughter looked in the mirror and asked, "Where did the *grace* go?" Another shared that as they were cleaning up before pre-school her daughter said, "But I want Jesus! I was going to show him to my teacher." Pieces of grace enhance each of our days and are found in many places, made known through a variety of means.

Lent is a time to draw closer to God. We can do this in many different ways – through prayer, bible reading, meditative walks, or simply looking for pieces of grace present each day and giving thanks to God for them, recognizing them for what they are: a gift of love and presence. Sharing our experiences of these pieces of grace helps open the eyes of others to the incomparable riches of God's grace.

This Lent, I invite you to look for pieces of grace as you go about your day. You could also examine your day before bed, looking for the places or ways you experienced God's grace. And then give thanks for these. Who then could you share your experiences with so they too could begin to see the immeasurable riches of God's grace?

See you in worship,

Pastor Linda Winkelman



Mid-Week Lenten Schedule

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| March 5 th | 1pm Ash Wednesday worship – Capron
7pm Ash Wednesday worship – JP |
| March 12 th | 5:30-6:30 Tacos / Fellowship hall
7pm Worship / Theme: <i>The Power of Blessing</i> |
| March 19 th | 5:30-6:30 Soup / Fellowship hall
7pm Worship / Theme: <i>The Power of Redemption</i> |
| March 26 th | 5:30-6:30 Baked Potatoes / Fellowship hall |